

DRINKING WATER WARNING

Tonto Basin Water – North Bay Estates has high levels of nitrate – DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS UNDER 6 MONTHS OLD OR USE IT TO MAKE INFANT FORMULA

**We are required to monitor your drinking water for nitrate on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards.*

On April 23, 2020, we received notice that the sample collected on April 16, 2020 showed a nitrate level of 13.0 mg/l, above the nitrate standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), of 10.0 mg/L. Our subsequent sample taken on April 24, 2020, showed a nitrate level of 13.9 mg/l, also above the nitrate standard. Nitrate in drinking water is a serious health concern for infants less than six months old.

Nitrate in drinking water can come from natural, industrial, or agricultural sources (including septic systems and run-off). Levels of nitrate in drinking water can vary throughout the year.

What should I do? What does this mean?

Public drinking water systems are designed to remove or inactivate pathogens, including viruses, such as COVID-19, with filtration and/or disinfection processes. The issue described in this notice does NOT affect those processes.

- **DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS.** Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome. Blue baby syndrome is indicated by blueness of the skin. Symptoms in infants can develop rapidly, with health deteriorating over a period of days. If symptoms occur, seek medical attention immediately.
- Water, juice, and formula for children under six months of age should not be prepared with tap water. Bottled water or other water low in nitrates should be used for infants until further notice.
- **DO NOT BOIL THE WATER.** Boiling, freezing, filtering, or letting water stand does not reduce the nitrate level. Excessive boiling can make the nitrates more concentrated, because nitrates remain behind when the water evaporates.
- Adults and children older than six months can drink the tap water (nitrate is a concern for infants because they can't process nitrates in the same way adults can). However, if you are pregnant or have specific health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What is being done?

We are investigating potential sources (i.e. nearby septic tanks), and possible interim water treatments, including filtration or organic treatment for nutrients.

For more information, please contact our customer service center at (888)644-6771 or info@jwwater.net.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by Tonto Basin Water – North Bay Estates
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